

THE ORIGIN OF MAN.

An Killie-street Infant's Theory of Evolution

[From the San Francisco Chronicle.]
On one of the delightful days of last week a young lady, well known in the exclusive first circles of San Francisco society for unrivaled personal charms and elegance of accomplishments, was driven around to make a congratulatory call upon a married lady friend, who was happily convalescing from that occasional sacred event in the lives of wedded ladies, which, far from being a sickness, is the perfect culmination of their health. She was shown into the parlor, and for the few minutes required to arrange for her reception in that room where mother and child were doing as well as could be expected, was left with no other to entertain her than the only son and heir of the house. Master Charles, then in his fourth year. But Charlie was fully equal to the situation, and promises to grow up into an ornament of society that will never be ashamed by beauty, however brilliant, into the painful negative of "no conversation." After some unessential preliminary remarks Master Charles approached nearer the visitor, and, lowering his tone into the confidential, asked:

"Miss —, oo doot a baby?"

The young lady gave one swift glance around to assure herself there was no other hearer of this pertinent question, and replied:

"No, Charlie, dear, I have not."

"And did oo never have a baby?"

In spite of the youth of her eager interlocutor her handsome eyes drooped before his ingenuous gaze, and her pretty face flushed as she replied:

"No, Charlie, I never did. Is not this a beautiful day?"

"And ain't oo never doin' to have no baby?" persisted Charlie declining to enter on the tempting conversational side-track of the weather.

"My boy, I can't tell. Tell me all the names of whom these are the photographs?"

"And don't oo want a baby?"

"Why, Charlie, boy, what a close questioner you are. If you are not careful you will grow into one of those newspaper interviewers, and then what will your poor mamma think of you?"

"Because," continued Charlie, utterly refusing to be switched off, "I know where oo tan de one. The doctor brought my mamma one, and he keeps them in bith offish. You juth do down Eilith street to Martet street, and den oo do down Martet street to Tarney street, and den oo do down Tarney street over the far, and den oo do up a lot of thairt and that where he teeps 'em. And they're awful cheap too. My papa hathn't paid for my mamma's baby yet, but heh doin to."

"Well, Charlie, I'm sure I'm much obliged to you for your full directions, and I'll just know where to go."

"Oh, Mith —, oo needn't do. I'll tell my papa juth attooth he turns home: that oo want a baby, an' he'll det one for oo, and —"

That young lady seized that little boy by his two shoulders, and, leaning over so as to look full into his eyes, she said, with an impressiveness lent by sudden terror:

"See here, Charlie, listen to me. I don't want any baby yet, and if you ever say anything about it to your papa, I'll never like you any more at all, at all, never, never, never. Now, will you promise?"

"Well, if oo don't want a baby I won't; but I to't everybody liked to have babies. I do."

The interview was here terminated by the entrance of a servant to usher the visitor into the presence of the convalescent lady.

COURTING IN RIGHT STYLE.

"Git out, you nasty puppy, let me alone or I'll tell my ma!" cried out Sally to her lover Jake, who sat about ten feet from her, pulling dirt from the chimney jam.

"I ain't teachin' on you, now, Sal," responded Jake.

"Well, perhaps, you don't mean to nuther, do you?"

"No, I don't."

"Cause you are too darned scary, you long-legged, lantern-jawed, slab-sided, pigeon-toed, gang-kneed owl, you — hasn't got a ternal bit of sense; git along home with you."

"Now, Sal, I love you and can't help it, and if you don't let me stay and court you my daddy will sue you'n for that cow he sold him t'other day. By jingo, he said he'd do it."

"Well, look here, Jake; if you want to court me, you'd better do it as a white man does that thing—not to set off there like as if you were pizen."

"How on earth is that, Sal?"

"Why, side right up here and hug and kiss me, as if you really had some of the bone and siner of a man about you. Do you s'pose a woman's only made to look at, you stupid fool, you?"

"Well," said Jake, drawing a long breath, "ef I must I must, for I love you, Sal," and so Jake commenced sidling up to her like a maple poker going to batte.

Laying his arm gently upon Sal's shoulder we thought we heard Sal say: "That's the way to do it, old hoss; that's acting like a white man or."

"O, Jerusalem and pancakes," exclaimed Jake, "ef this isn't better than any apple sass marin ever made, a darned sight. Crack-a-luck buckwheat cakes, flapjacks and lasses ain't no whar, longside of you, Sal! Oh, how I love you!"

Here their lips came together, and the report that followed was like pulling a horse's hoof out of the mire. —[Exchange.

Dolloch, the post of the Call, who began singing about "painted soul" and "love's philosophy," devoted his latest stanzas to babies. A natural sequence.

Boston Post: "The beautiful Seven" is the name of a new play now on the New York stage. Yes, the seven are all right; it is the eight that troubles us.

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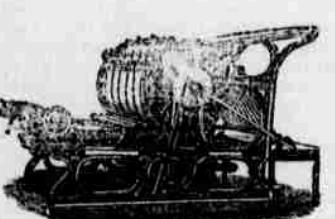
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